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From the Director of Milwaukee of County Parks, requesting authorization to approve the acceptance on ongoing financial donations in support of tree replanting efforts as part of the Community Tree Program, by recommending adoption of the following:

**AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive beetle, has and continues to decimate trees in Milwaukee County parks; and

WHEREAS, the public, who love and support their parks, are interested in contributing financial donations to support tree plantings; and

**WHEREAS, Section 13.03, Milwaukee County Code of General Ordinances, requires all gifts to Milwaukee County departments be approved by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors (County Board); and**

**WHEREAS, there are many community groups and partners interested in donating trees, or contributing to a fund to purchase trees, because of the many that have been removed due to Emerald Ash Borer; and**

**WHEREAS, the creation of the Community Tree Program (the Program) will allow the County Board the ability to annually approve tree donations, instead of approval on an individual basis; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture, will provide an annual informational report detailing the program’s metrics, including number of donations received, type of donation, and outreach efforts; and**

WHEREAS, the Program encourages and accepts financial donations to support tree planting efforts, above and beyond what current staff and budget allows; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Parks, Energy, and Environment, at its meeting of June 12, 2020, recommended adoption of File No. 20-418 as amended (vote 5-0); now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Culture (DPRC) is hereby authorized to institute the Community Tree Program (the Program) to accept ongoing financial donations through the Program for the purpose of planting trees within Milwaukee County-owned parkland; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the DPRC shall submit an informational report each year summarizing the total number, and dollar amount, of donations received through the Program.

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